

30

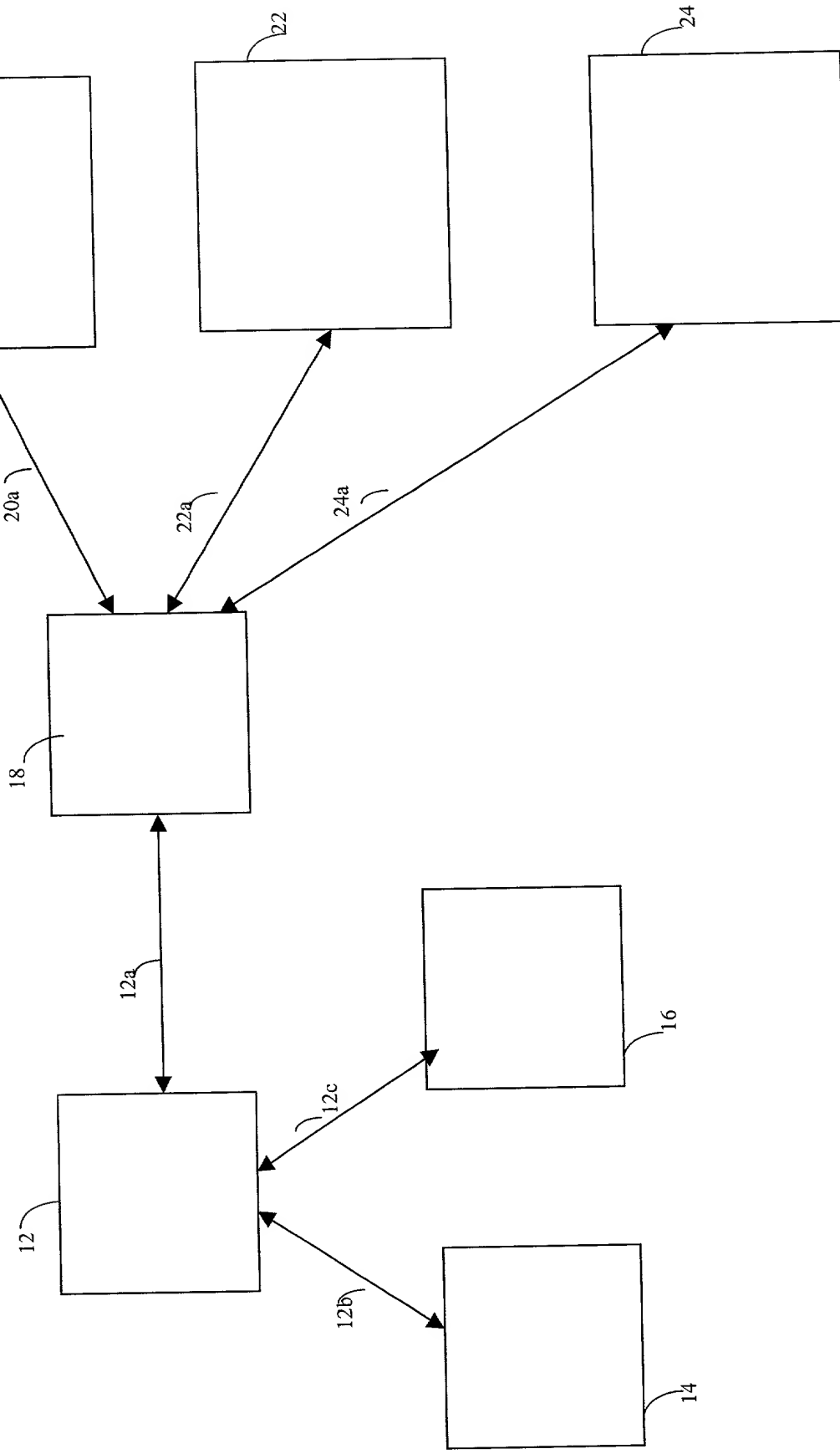


FIGURE 1

10

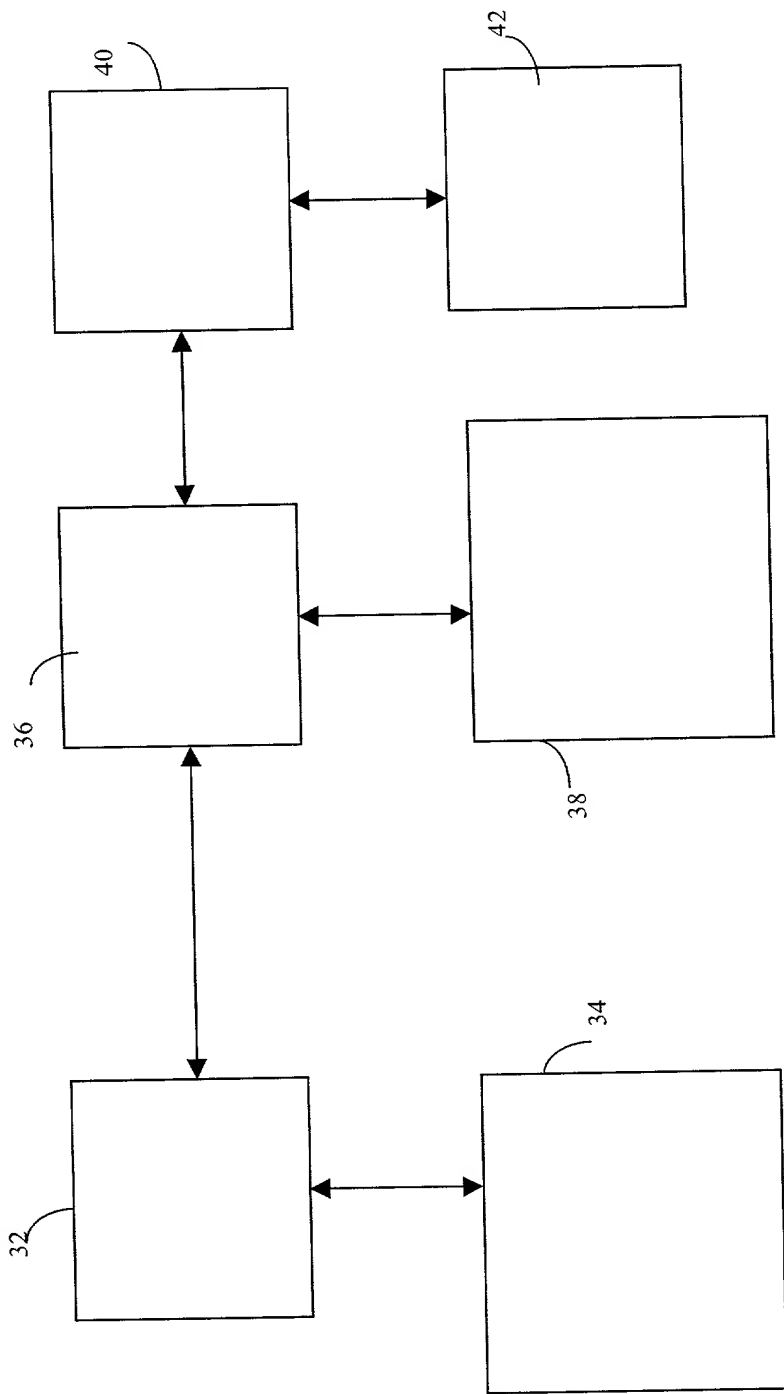


FIGURE 2

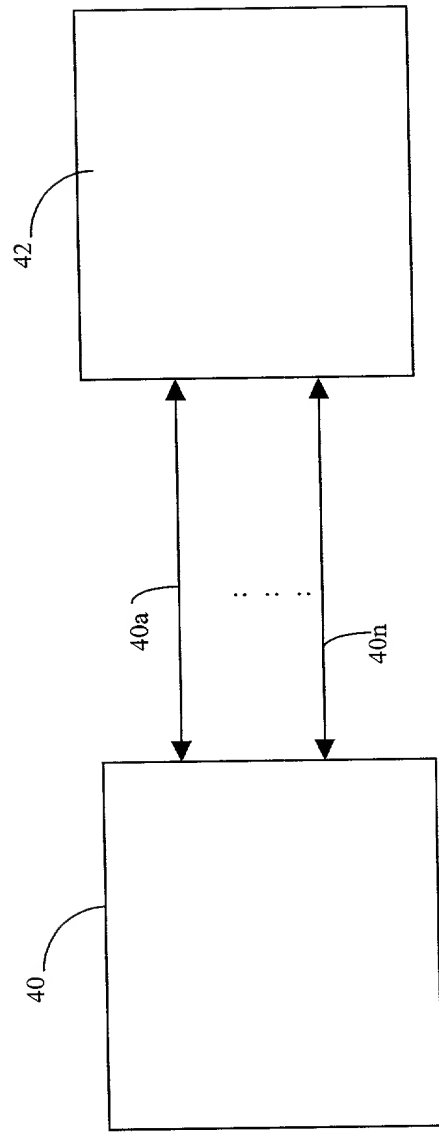


FIGURE 3

FIG. 4 is a flowchart illustrating a data storage operation request handling process.

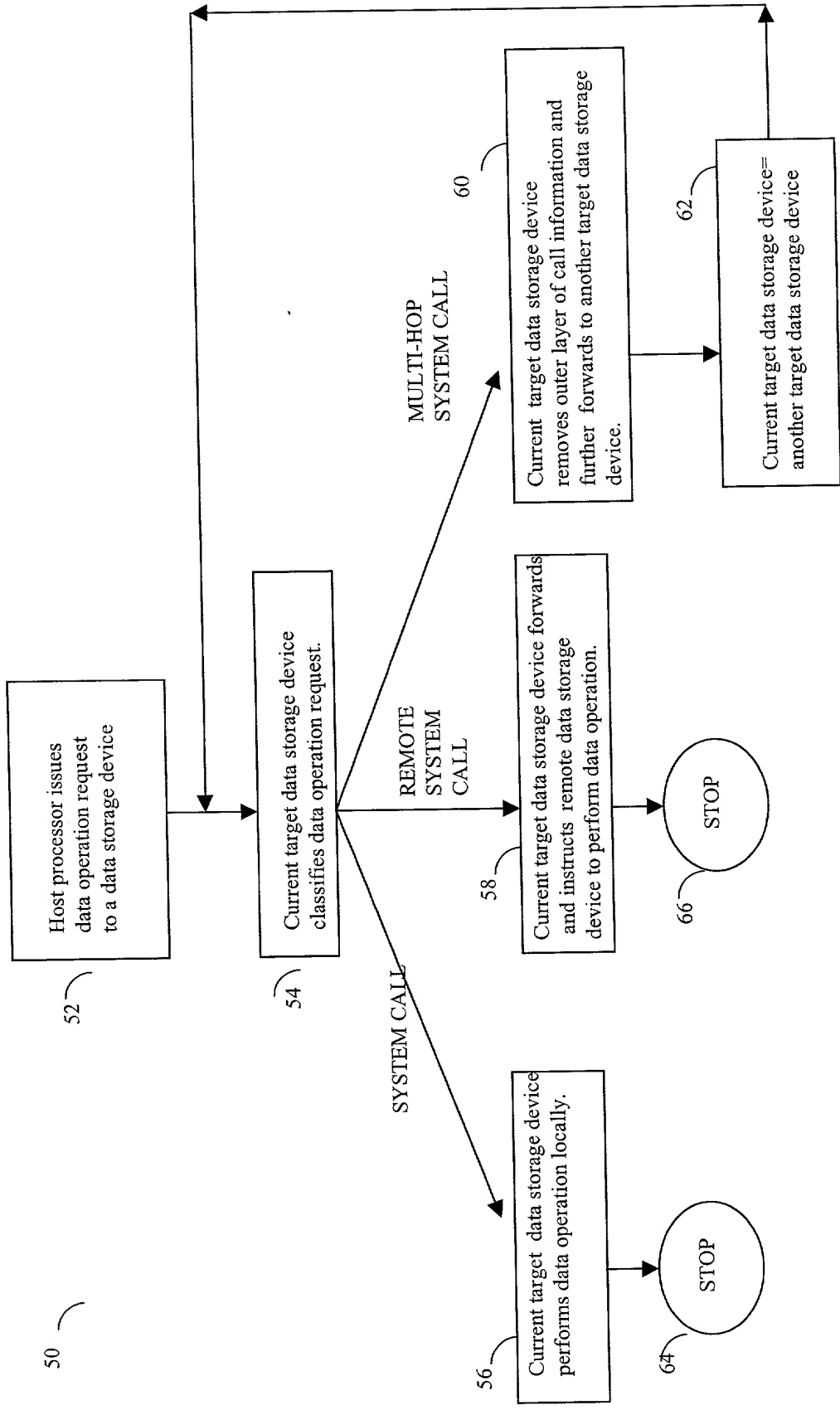


FIGURE 4

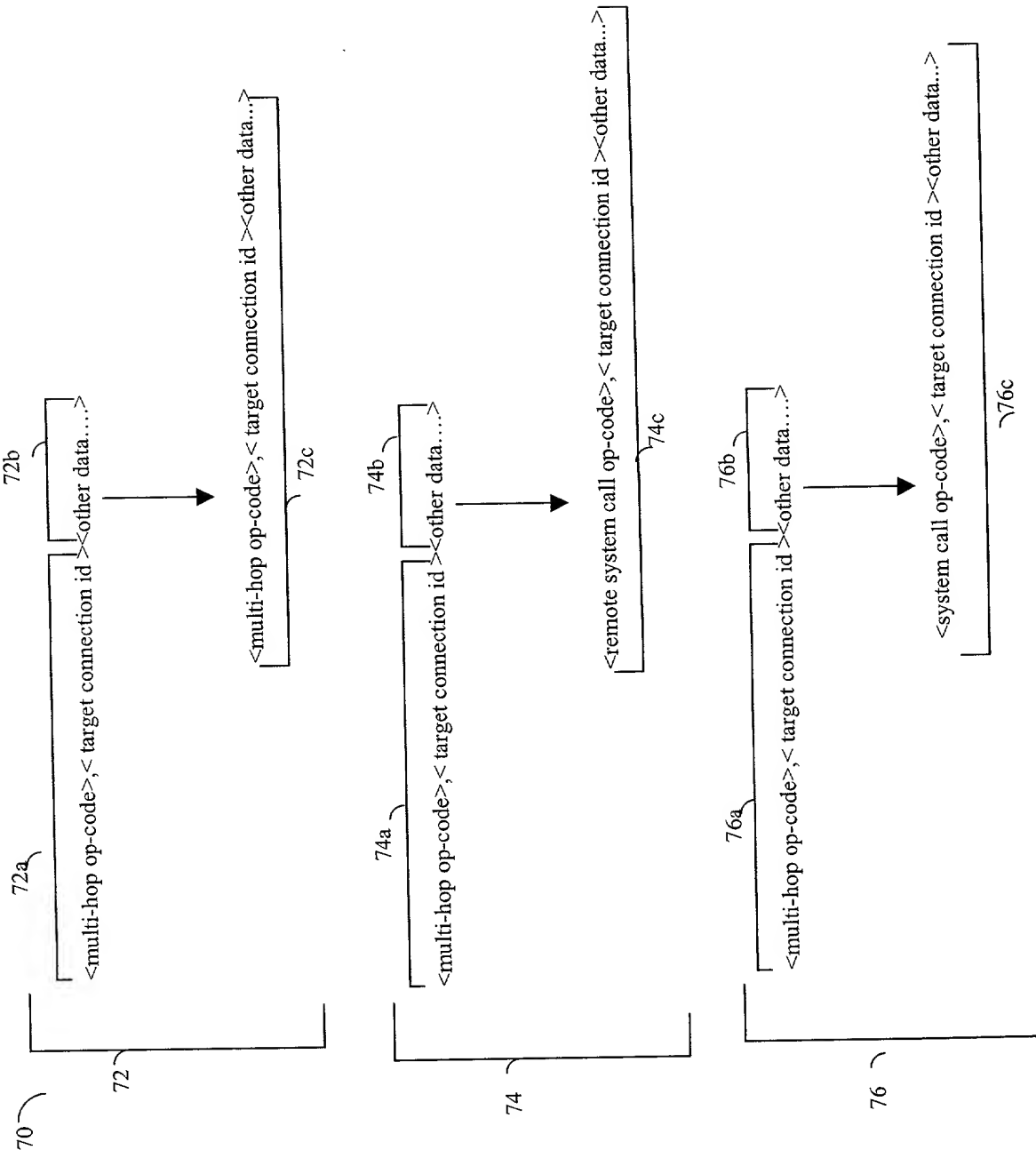
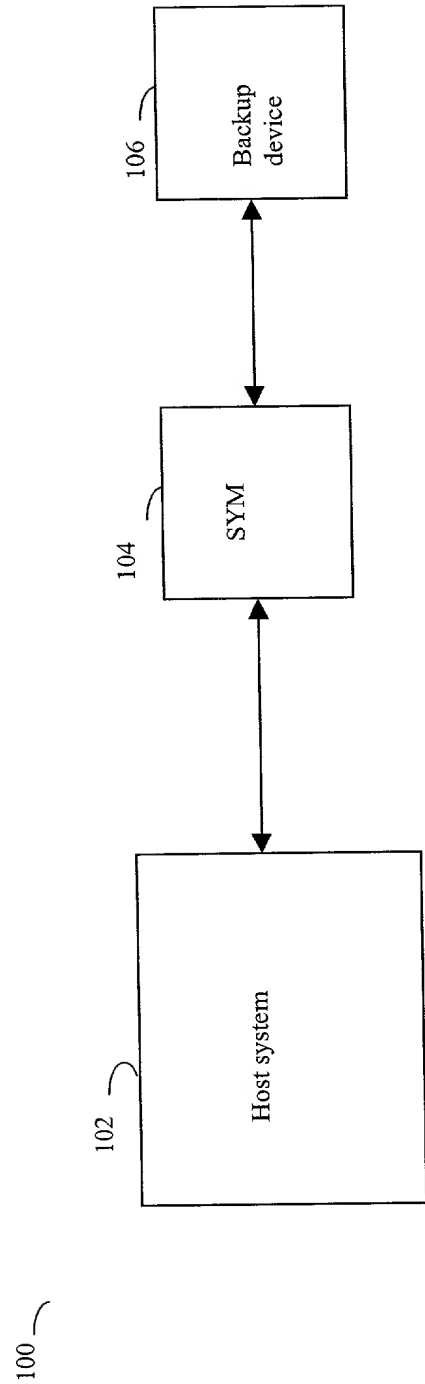


FIGURE 5

FIG. 6 is a block diagram of a backup system 100 in accordance with the present invention.



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FIGURE 6

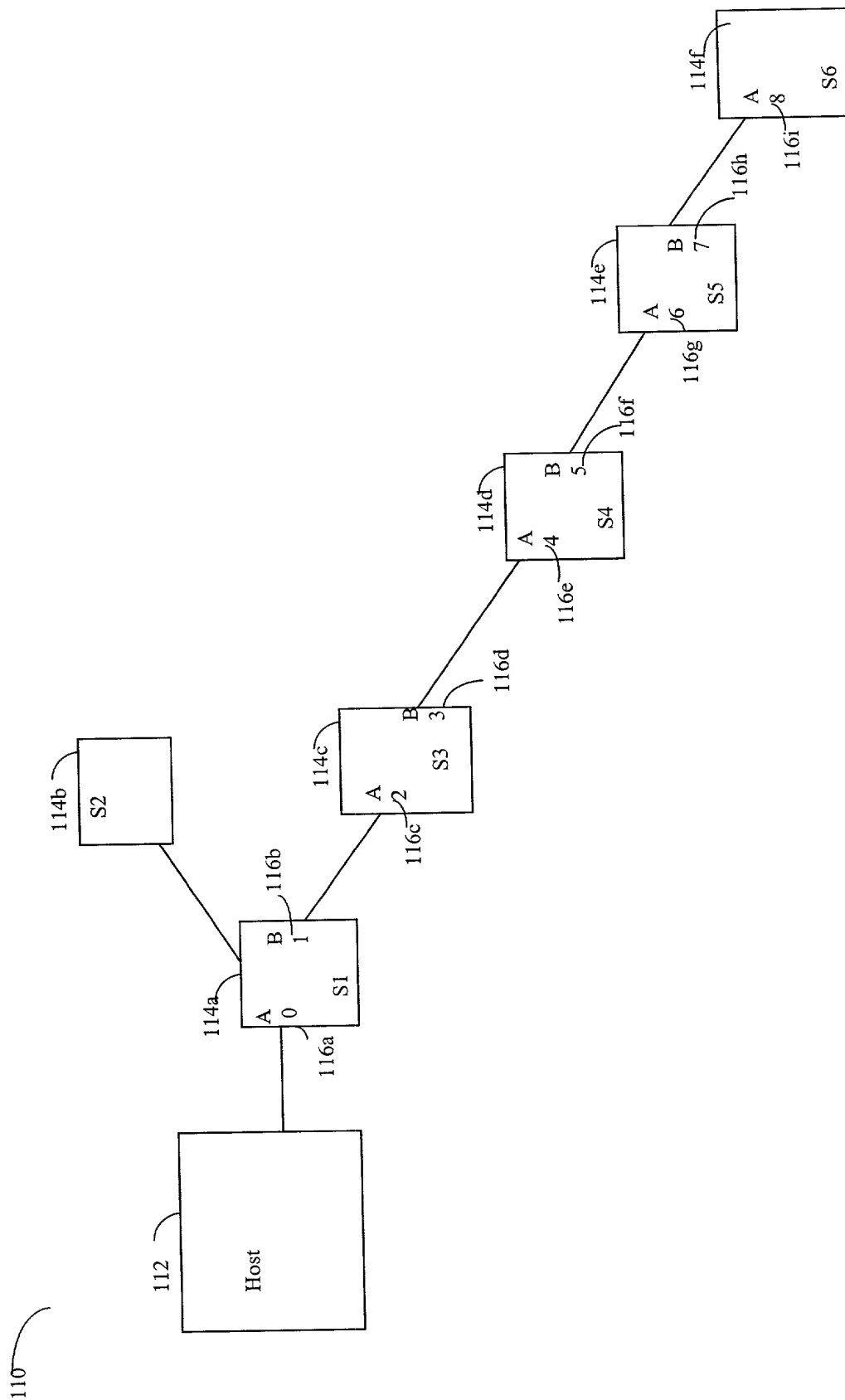


FIGURE 7

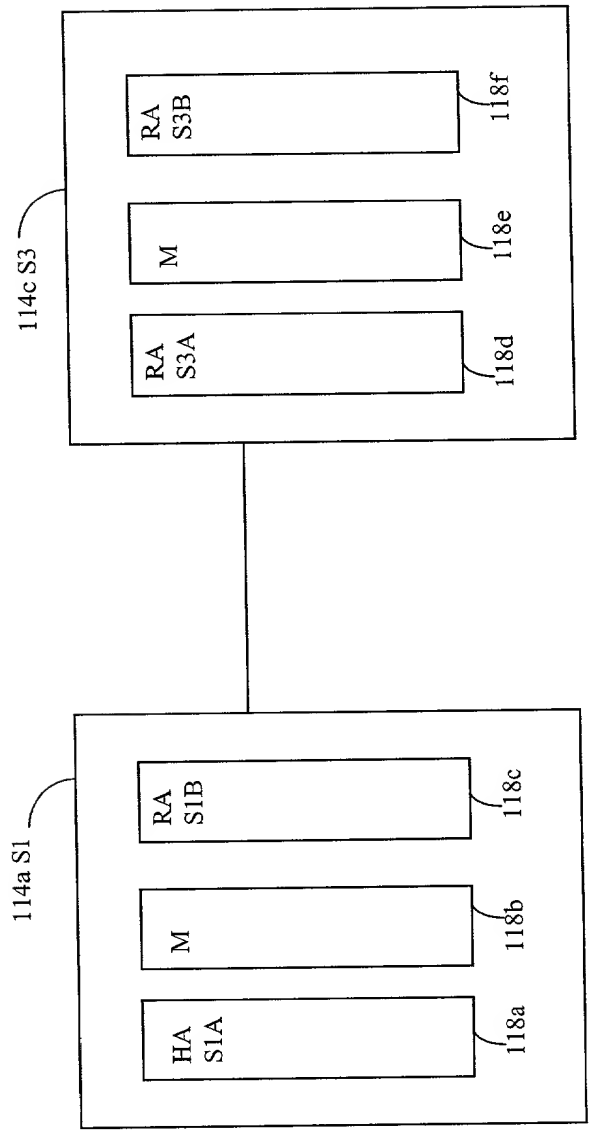


FIGURE 8

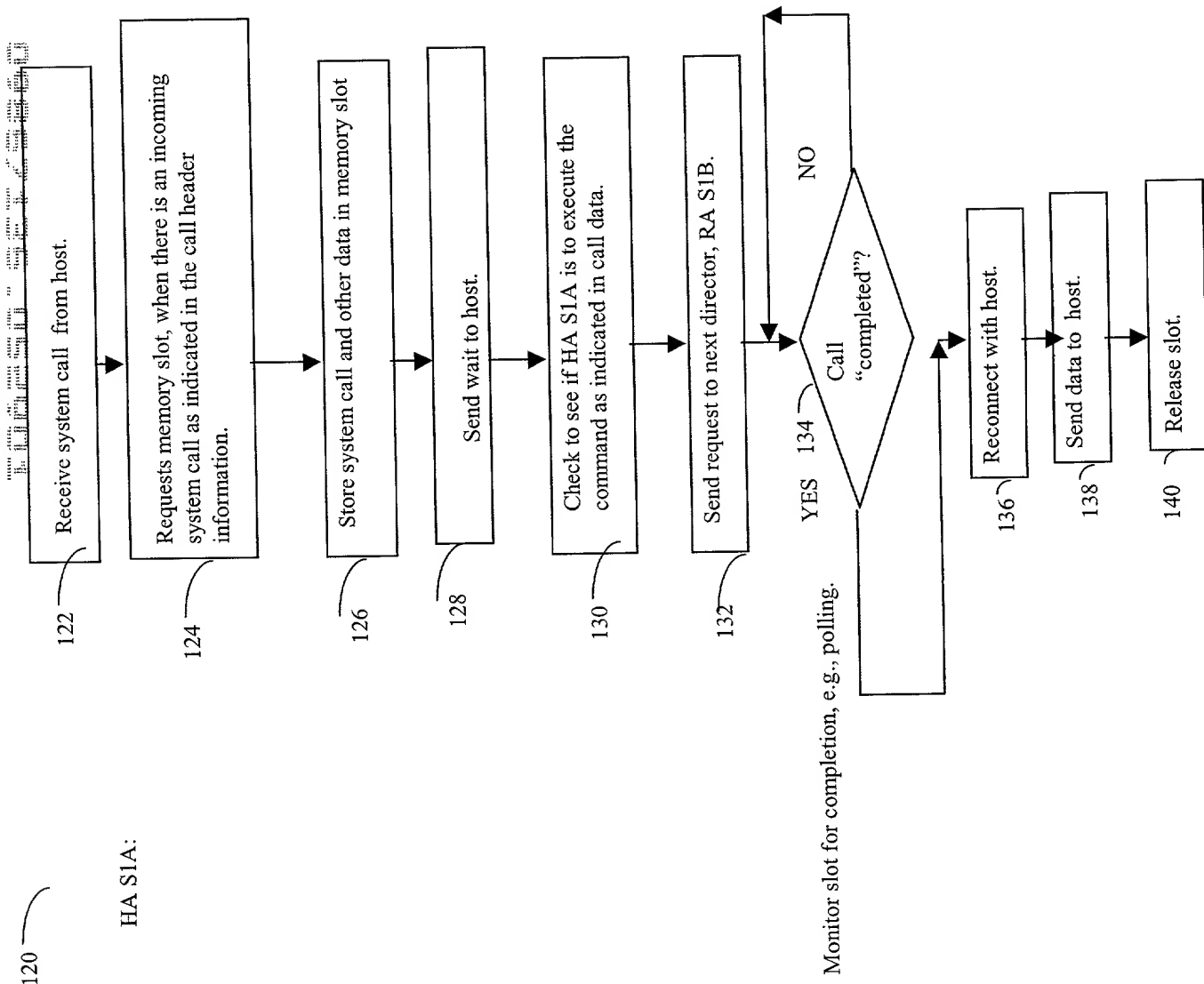


FIGURE 9

150

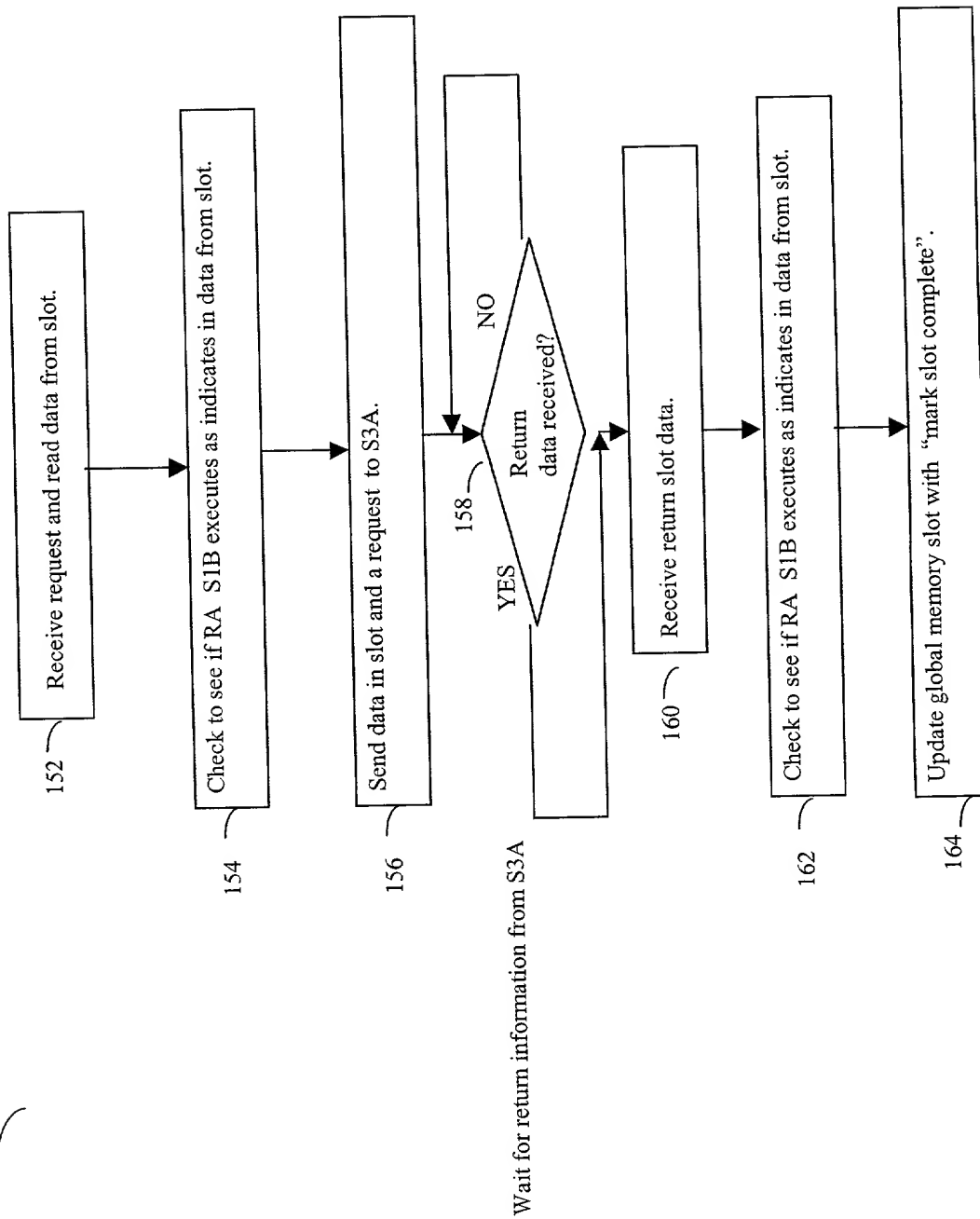


FIGURE 10

200	202	204	208	210	212
	C1	C2	total hops	this_hop_count	this_hop_node
220a	0	0	0	0	0
220b	0	0	1	1	1
220c	0	0	2	2	2
220d	0	0	3	3	3
	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:
220e	1	1	8	8	8
220f	1	1	9	9	7
220g	1	1	:	:	6
	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	:	:	:
220h	1	1	16	16	0

FIGURE 11